

# E-HAPPENINGS

WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE

January 2009

## NEWS

### Grant Brings Latest Technology to Machining Program

Western now has the latest technology for automotive machining, thanks to a \$182,000 federal grant through the Carl Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act. The grant was used to purchase two computer-guided machine tools: a milling center and honing device. "These are the first two machines of this type in Nevada, and the only ones being used in a teaching setting in Nevada or Northern California," Instructor Paul Eastwood said. Made by Rottler

Manufacturing Company, Eastwood said he hopes that the new machines will spark a greater interest in machine tool and automotive technology at the college.

<http://www.wnc.edu/news/2008-12-22a.php>



Jim Montgomery of the Rottler Manufacturing Company shows the controls to student assistant Matt Digangi. The machine can precisely restore engine blocks.

### "Sleepwalk, a Robot" to Rock in Carson & Fallon

Phoenix rock band "Sleepwalk, a Robot" will provide the music for an Associated Students of Western Nevada College concert in Carson City and Fallon. The group plays on Thursday, Feb. 12, in Fallon and Friday, Feb. 13, in Carson City. In Fallon, the group plays at the Churchill County High School auditorium. Friday's concert is at the Warehouse at Highway 50 and East College Parkway in Carson City.

<http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-01-29b.php>

### Western Kicks Off International Year of Astronomy

2009 is the "International Year of Astronomy," and Western Nevada College is celebrating through the Jack C. Davis Observatory. Director Robert Collier lectured at the Nevada State Museum, and each month, the observatory will release a space photo to area media. 2009 marks the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo. The museum and Western Nevada College will join institutions throughout the world in promoting a greater appreciation of the inspirational aspects of science. At right: January's photo – "M51 spiral galaxy."



### Fall Scholarship Deadline

The spring semester has barely begun, but it's time for students to apply for scholarships to be awarded for next fall. Students should complete the WNC scholarship application and the FAFSA, or federal application, online at <http://www.wnc.edu/student-services/financial/funding-scholarships.php>. The deadline is April 1. Money is available for both undecided and declared majors. Information is available from the Financial Assistance Office, 445-3264. Faculty: any assistance in reminding students about this deadline will be most appreciated!

## Construction Education Grant Will Enhance Program

A grant from the Nevada Commission on Construction Education will boost enrollment in construction classes next fall. The commission has given the college \$10,000 to provide dual-college credit for 20 area high school students. The students will take classes in carpentry, plumbing, electricity, and concrete forming, among others. The help from the construction education commission is welcome, as building associations in the past offered scholarships to high school students, but have been hard pressed lately because of economic conditions. One of the legacies of the building associations is a 24' x 24' garage that is being constructed in the lab facilities on the Carson City campus. When the garage is completed, it will be sold, disassembled and reassembled on the buyer's site, with proceeds from the sale returned to the construction program.

## ARTS

### "Grand Night For Singing" Will Feature a Galaxy of Stars



Performers L-R: Maria Arrigotti, Sarah Pennebaker and Lynne Heller

**Carson City Community Center**

**Friday through Sunday, Feb. 13-15**

**Cost: \$20 general admission, \$18 students and seniors, \$16 youth 17 and under**

**Tickets and information: 775-445-4249**

What happens when you gather a galaxy of stars to shine for one magnificent evening? A "Grand Night for Singing." The Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company will open its 2009 season by assembling some of its brightest stars from past productions to relive the greatest moments of Rodgers and Hammerstein. Perfect for a Valentine's Day/weekend outing!

<http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-01-29a.php>

## ATHLETICS

### See Softball Team in Scrimmage Saturday

### Wildcats Baseball, Softball Players Lauded for Achievement



Reno High grad Cavin Hill will be on the mound this year for the Wildcats.

Though they are still practicing for their first games this season, there is good news to go around for the baseball team and the new softball team. Both squads earned better than a "B" average as a team in fall 2008 classes. Western's baseball team is coming off a great 2008 season. All four starting pitchers and the first four hitters in the line-up played last year. The baseball team opens play this weekend in a Las Vegas tournament. The new Wildcats softball team will host a scrimmage this Saturday, Jan. 31, 11 a.m., at Centennial Park in east Carson City, off Highway 50. Admission is free. The team opens play on February 4 in Utah.



Catcher Devin Steelman hit a home run in a scrimmage against Feather River College.

## COLLEGE CORNER

### Western Sponsors Skating Rink

The new outdoor ice skating rink in downtown Carson City is proving to be a big hit with more than a thousand skaters during its first three days of existence. Western is one of the community sponsors of the rink, and you can hear our audio messages mixed in with the music of theme nights: country, 80's, disco, and other genres.

## Janet King has Reason to Celebrate

Social Psychology Instructor Janet King of Fallon has a couple of reasons to celebrate this month. A great photo she took of a cherubic little girl with big blue eyes and gorgeous red hair is on the cover of the Fallon phone book. The photo is of Sloan Dahl, the daughter of Rachel Dahl, who works part-time for the college teaching political science.



Janet King and Dr. Phillip Zimbardo at the DeAnza College workshop.

The setting for the photo is Lattin Farms in Fallon.

On a completely different note, Pearson Publishers invited Janet to participate in a workshop on classroom technology at DeAnza College hosted by the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology and DeAnza College Psychology Department earlier this month.

The guest speaker for this event was Dr. Philip Zimbardo, an influential psychologist who conducted the famous Stanford Prison Experiment. His investigation into the psychology of prison life had to be ended prematurely after only six days because of what the situation was doing to the college students who participated. In only a few days, guards

became sadistic and prisoners became depressed and showed signs of extreme stress. Dr. Zimbardo's work was recently featured in the HBO Documentary "The Ghosts of Abu Ghraib." Janet says Dr. Zimbardo's research as well as the documentary is used in her psychology classes.

## College Potluck Raises Money for Carson Charity

This year's Holiday Potluck on December 12 raised \$1,000 for a local food assistance program from classified employees, faculty and staff, in addition to donations of food. Lunch and breakfast programs



Committee members and President Carol Lucey present a check to "Food for Thought" program.

have done a lot to help the hundreds of homeless children attending Carson City schools, but many homeless children have very little to eat on the weekends and may go to bed hungry. A local group, "Food for Thought," provides a bag of food for the area's homeless children every Friday. The group says that a large percentage of homeless families are headed by single mothers escaping an abusive home. The good news is that children who benefit from the "back pack" programs improve in math and reading, in addition to improving in attendance and behavior.

Thanks to the organizing committee: Kathryn Ross, Liz Kappel, Erich Holcombe, Jacky Gentine & Ellen Shafer.

## Bridge to Success Coming to High Schools

A team from Western's student services, faculty, staff and students will be reaching out to all of the area high schools from February through May with our Bridge to Success program. The program has been shown to help motivate students and it has increased the number of students who attend Western. Students and parents learn about the steps needed to attend college, including applying for admission, taking a placement test, applying for financial aid, and registering for classes.